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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7136

BILL NUMBER: SB 558

NOTE PREPARED: Mar 19, 2013

BILL AMENDED: Feb 11, 2013

SUBJECT: Land Surveyors.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Young R Michael

FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Ober

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 2nd House

FUNDS AFFECTED: ☒ **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: The bill revises the law on the registration of land surveyors to provide instead for the registration of "professional surveyors". The bill revises the law on the certification of registered land surveyors in training to provide instead for the certification of "surveyor interns". The bill provides a new definition of "the practice of surveying" in recognition of technical changes in the practice. The bill defines "authoritative" when used to describe products, processes, applications, or data resulting from the practice of surveying. The bill provides that photogrammetrists must be certified by a national scientific organization. The bill makes conforming changes.

Effective Date: July 1, 2013.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Summary:* The Professional Licensing Agency (PLA) would be the agency that would carry out the administrative changes proposed by the bill for the current Board of Registration for Land Surveyors. A name change of the board to the Board of Registration for Professional Surveyors would incorporate changes in board signage and revisions to license applications to reflect the name change. Given that much of the documentation representing the board is online, much of the traditional printing cost may be mitigated. However, the PLA would need to revise the online information for the board on the PLA's website to reflect the name change.

The Surveyor Board may need to convene to adopt or amend rules in the Indiana Administrative Code (IAC) to incorporate the name changes and changes in the definition of a professional surveyor. Depending on the course of action and the time needed to make decisions, it is unclear if the Surveyor Board would need additional meetings to accomplish the bill's requirements.

Background Information: As of September 2012, there were 906 surveyors and 427 surveyors in training with an active certification. The Surveyor Board is scheduled to meet four times during CY 2013.

Explanation of State Revenues: *Summary-* It is unclear if the change in the definition of a surveyor as presented in the bill would have an impact on future licensing revenues. Interpretation of the proposed definitions may affect the number of persons seeking initial licensure in the future. However, the bill would grandfather existing land surveyors as professional surveyors. The grandfather provision should allow the current revenue base, minus normal attrition, to remain relatively intact.

Background Information: Land surveyor licensing fees generated \$48,300 in revenue during FY 2012. Land surveyor licensing fees are placed in the state General Fund.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: State Board of Registration for Land Surveyors; Professional Licensing Agency.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Professional Licensing Agency.

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